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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia REPORT TOPIC Trenc. Biskupice Airfield

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 31 August 1952

REFERENCES

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PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. In July 1952, preliminary work for the construction of a north-south concrete runway, about 50 meters wide, was observed at Trenc. Biskupice (P 49/T 58) airfield. It was rumored that the field was to be expanded to the south and southwest. Work was apparently not continued on the extension of the field or on the planned runway during the winter of 1952/1953.¹ A tower, about 16 meters high, about 6 meters square, with a glazed upper section was being erected on the eastern edge of the field.

2. The field was occupied by a pilot school with about 400 students who were quartered in the buildings on the northern edge of the field. From 1952 to about April 1953, about 50 twin-engine aircraft with double rudder assemblies, radial engines and small windows in the upper section of the fuselage and about 8 single-seater low-wing monoplanes with radial engines, referred to as fighters, were observed at the field. Occasionally, there were more than 8 fighters. Almost every day during the summer months, twin-engine aircraft practiced flying in stagger formations of 3, 4 or 8 aircraft. Occasionally, up to 18 and more aircraft were observed aloft at the same time. Sometimes, 2 or 3 twin-engine aircraft dived and apparently fired at a point in the terrain. Occasionally, the twin-engine aircraft were escorted by single-engine fighters. Sometimes, the fighters made feint attacks against the twin-engine aircraft.²

3. After January 1951, parachute training courses for civilians were held at the field. Each course numbered about 75 men and women. Chief of the courses was Milan Pastorek.
The students received theoretical instruction, trained in jujitsu and also in parachuting from a Dakota aircraft from altitudes between 400 and 1,200 meters. The parachutes, of the parachute factories Marina and Nehera in Trencin, were tested at the field. They opened automatically after the parachutist jumped out of the aircraft.³

1. Comment. Improvement work and construction work on the runway were reported previously.

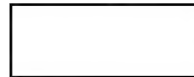
2. Comment. The information that Trencin airfield is occupied by a flying school is probable. The school possibly is a service school for bomber or ground attack pilots and for fighter pilots. The single-engine aircraft were previously

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reported and are believed to be of the La-type or Yak-11s. The twin-engine aircraft are believed to be Siebel 204s with the Czech designation C 203.

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3. Comment. The parachute training courses are probably held within the framework of pre-military training in the satellite countries.

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